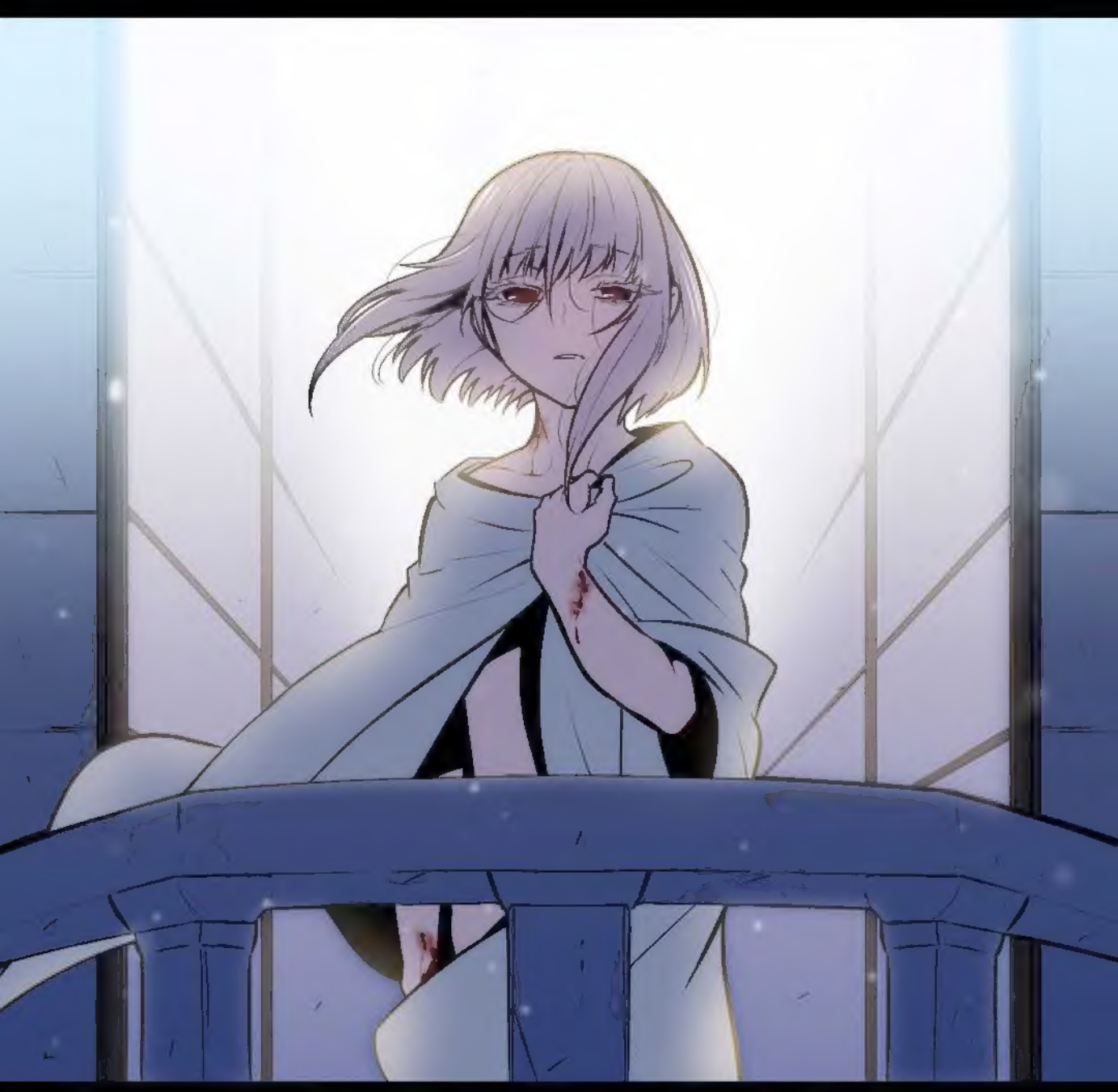
HAHAHAHA...
KYAA...

STEP...

HEHE...
KEKEKE

WOOSH



...I CAN'T DO THIS, ANYMORE.

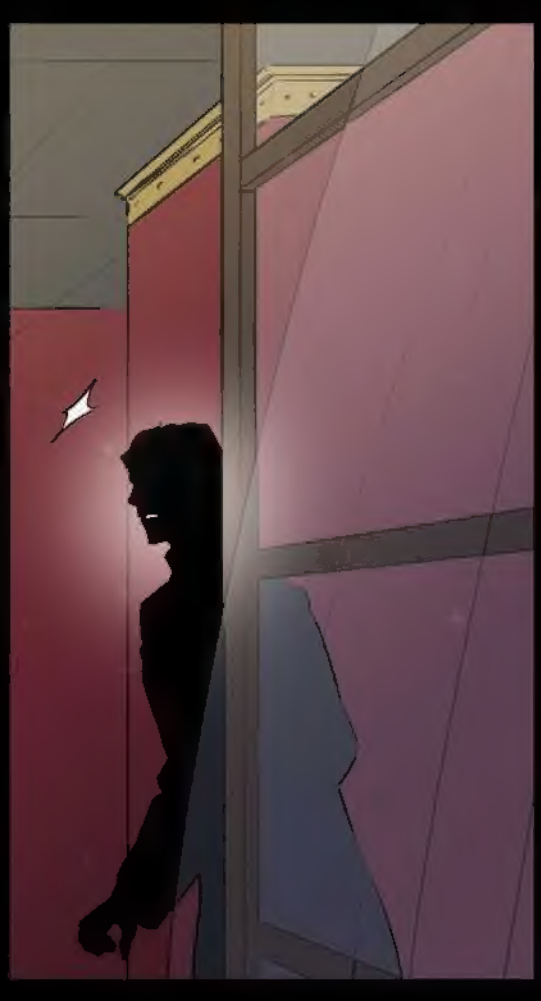
MAMA, I'M SORRY.

NO MATTER HOW STRONG MY BODY IS MY MIND CAN'T HOLD ON.

I CAN'T JUST LET THEM KEEP RIPPING ME APART...

THE ONLY THING I CAN CONTROL IS MY LIFE...

LIKE PAPA...



NO...!!

FLAP

WH-WHO ARE YOU-

CLENCH

I'M SORRY.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT WILL TAKE FOR YOU TO WANT TO KEEP LIVING.

BUT I'LL STAY BY YOUR SIDE.

WHY...

IS THIS PERSON APOLOGIZING TO ME?

NO MATTER WHAT.

WHY IS HE SAYING HE'LL STAY WITH ME?

NO-ONE'S EVER SAID THAT TO ME...

BLOOD BANK

Third chapter
Carnival

– play 47 –

-3 YEARS LATER-

ELLIE~!

MASTER SHELL.

DID YOU COME BACK FROM THE BANQUET EARLY?

AND FATHER?

HE SAID HE HAD TO GO SOMEWHERE.

THEN IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US!!

SHELL, AGE 8.

YES.

ELLIE, AGE 21.

...WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT FATHER, ELLIE?

HE'S A GOOD PERSON. AND HE TREATS ME WELL.

REALLY?

ALL THE SERVANTS SAY I'M THE MOST LIKE MY FATHER OUT OF MY SIBLINGS...

BUT... I DON'T KNOW.

ARE YOU NOT CLOSE WITH HIM?

MY FATHER...

I WANNA GROW UP QUICKLY!

CRAB

THEN I CAN PROTECT ELLIE.

I'LL...

MASTER SHELL...

ZZZ...

...AS I THOUGHT, IT'S BECAUSE OF THE PHEROMONES.

HM?

BEFORE THEY DEVELOP PHEROMONES, YOUNG VAMPIRES ARE JUST LIKE HUMANS.

THEY'RE JUST KIDS THAT WANT TO BE LOVED BY THEIR PARENTS.

DURING THAT TIME, ELLIE WAS COMPLETELY ABSORBED WITH RESEARCHING VAMPIRE PHEROMONES.

THE PHEROMONES ARE DIVIDING HUMANS AND VAMPIRES.

I DIDN'T COMPLETELY AGREE WITH THAT IDEA, BUT...

I LOOKED FORWARD TO THE TIMES WE WOULD SPEND TOGETHER WHENEVER THE OVERLORD ESTATE HAD A PARTY,

AND SURVIVED DAY BY DAY.

IT'S FINISHED.

WOW...!

WE MIGHT AS WELL HAVE BEEN PLAYING HOUSE, WITH OUR SHABBY KITCHEN AND HALF-FILLED PANTRY...

...BUT A NORMAL ART, FROM ITS APPEARANCE TO ITS TEMPERAMENT, IS ADJUSTED ACCORDING TO ITS OWNER'S TASTES.

YET ELLIE WAS HIS OWN MAN, THROUGH AND THROUGH.

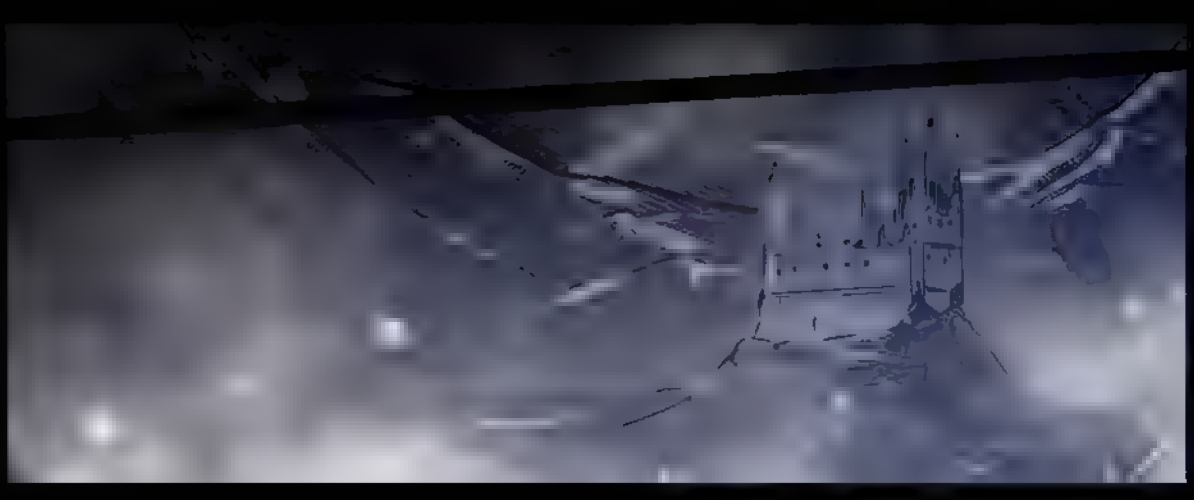
WHAT ELSE COULD I HAVE DONE, APART FROM LOVE THAT KIND OF PERSON...?
WHILE THE WAY PAIN OVERLORD LEFT ELLIE ALONE...
AND THE WAY MY OWN OWNER DID NOT MADE ME FEEL A PAINFUL JEALOUSY...

I HELPED ELLIE LOOK FOR A WAY TO OVERCOME THE VAMPIRES' PHEROMONES...

EVEN TAKING ON THE DANGEROUS TASK OF USING THE DREGS IN THE SLUMS TO GATHER THEIR FLUIDS...

THE ONLY TIME I FELT TRULY FREE WAS WHEN I WAS WITH ELLIE.

BUT I NEVER IMAGINED IT WOULD LEAD TO SOMEONE COMING AFTER ME...



MAMA...?!

DID SHE ESCAPE THE GUARDS? SHE MIGHT HURT HERSELF AGAIN...!

WHY ARE YOU HERE, MAMA! YOU SHOULD HURRY UP AND...

CHILD... CHILD...

RUN...!

GRAB

...!?

KYAAAAA!!

WHAT'RE YOU DOING...! LET GO...!

WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?!

CALL MY MASTER...!

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

MAS...TER...?

DON'T WORRY, MY TREASURE.

I WON'T LET YOU DIE.

WHAT...

SLIP...

SHIVER

HEY~

CONGRATULATIONS, HUMPTY DUMPTY.

YOU SHOULD REMEMBER THIS DAY.

To be continued

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